

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 DHA-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /114 W

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R 242150Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1341

INFO AMCONGEN BELIZE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS MEXICO 10319

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: ECHEVERRIA'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA COMMENTED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN MEXICO AND SPAIN NOW THAT GENERALISSIMO FRANCO HAS PASSED FROM THE SCENE, ON MEXICO'S POSITIONS VIS-A-VIS BOTH ZIONISM AND BELIZE, AND ON US-MEXICAN RELATIONS IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION NOVEMBER 20. END SUMMARY.

2. SPAIN: ECHEVERRIA SAID THAT THE GOM "FERVENTLY DESIRES" TO HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GOS, HOPEFULLY WITHIN A FEW WEEKS. HE ADDED NOW THAT GENERALISSIMO FRANCO HAS PASSED FROM THE SCENE, THERE IS ALREADY EMERGING A MOVEMENT OF WORKERS, STUDENTS AND INTELLECTUALS WHICH HE BELIEVES WILL RESULT IN A PROCESS LEADING TO THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF SPAIN AND WHICH IN TURN WILL ALLOW MEXICO TO ESTABLISH

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DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. ECHEVERRIA ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE ALREADY HAS A LIST WITH THE NAMES OF A DOZEN MEN WHO ARE

UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE GOM'S AMBASSADOR TO MADRID. WITH RESPECT TO TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS, THE MEXICAN LEADER ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED GOM OFFICIALS TO EXAMINE THE GRADUAL RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

3. ZIONISM: ECHEVERRIA PROCLAIMED THAT MEXICO'S RECORD IS CLEAR - MEXICO IS NOT ANTI-SEMITIC, IN FACT, THE JEWS HAVE ALWAYS LIVED HERE IN PEACE. ACCORDING TO THE MEXICAN LEADER, WHAT NEEDS TO BE MADE CLEAR BY ISRAEL IS THAT ZIONISM IS NOT EXPANSIONISM DIRECTED AGAINST ITS NEIGHBORS. WHEN THIS IS DONE, HE ASSERTED THAT THE GOM WILL MODIFY ITS ATTITUDE ON THE MATTER.

4. BELIZE: WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON BELIZE IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT LAUGERUD'S STATEMENT THAT GUATEMALA ALONE HAS HISTORICAL CLAIMS TO THE TERRITORY OF BELIZE, ECHEVERRIA SIMPLY REPEATED THAT "THE BELIZEANS, GUATEMALANS, AND MEXICANS HAVE CONCRETE HISTORICAL RIGHTS WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED THROUGH PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS."

5. RELATIONS WITH THE US: ECHEVERRIA, INSISTING THAT MEXICO IS ECONOMICALLY DEPENDENT ON THE US, URGED THE NEED FOR ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE NOT ONLY IN ECONOMIC TERMS, BUT ALSO IN TECHNOLOGY, IN SPIRIT, AND IN THE EDUCATION OF MEXICO'S CHILDREN. HE ADDED THAT WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO LIVE NEXT TO A GREAT POWER, MEXICO HAD MADE PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING ITS INDEPENDENCE IN RECENT YEARS. AS PROOF OF THIS HE CITED THE AGREEMENT ON THE SALINITY OF THE COLORADO RIVER AND THE GOM'S INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY WHICH HAS PRODUCED ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUCH AS THE U.N.'S APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES.

6. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO TRANSMIT PARA 2 TO MADRID TELEGRAPHICALLY.  
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